

**HUNGRY FOR SHIPS**

Goodwin Sands, in the North Sea,  
Swallow Them Pitilessly.

**SCENE OF MANY TRAGEDIES.**

These Greedy Shoals, That Mock Man's  
Efforts to Tame Them, Once Gulp'd  
Down a Fleet of War Vessels With  
Over a Thousand Officers and Men.

From the steep rough shore of Deal, overlooking the ship swallowing Goodwin Sands, many of the pilgrim fathers embarked for America, and their descendants, in visiting or leaving England, travel through the famous downs from which their stern progenitors set sail in search of perfect liberty. The Goodwins were then in the heyday of their evil reputation, and for unnumbered years they have been as much the graveyard of the narrow seas as Sable Island is of the Atlantic ocean. With fervent thankfulness the pilgrim fathers saw the last of those notorious and far-reaching shoals which break the vicious seas in gales and make them surge and roar like rapids and which, faithful to their treacherous character, appear on bright summer days as restful as golden plains, with blue and glorious rivers running through the countless channels.

Ships of battle, treasure ships, Indian men with precious cargoes and emigrant ships have sailed as far as the Goodwins and there have been engulfed. Most travelers who skirt the coast between the Forlands see the gaunt remains of melancholy wrecks.

The romantic tale is told that the Goodwins were at one time a beautiful and fruitful island, the estate of Earl Goodwin, but that in 1097 they became a vast shoal because of "a turbulent rage of rain and an unheard of rage of the sea." The island disappeared and became "incredibly covered with sand." That has been the tradition for many centuries, and less than 200 years ago there was an alehouse keeper who declared that his oaken shuffleboard was made from a tree which grew on the Goodwins when they were an island.

A clerical investigator, however, who knew the publican, sorrowfully classed him as a lying fellow. Although the tradition is generally credited, it seems far more likely that the Goodwins are formed by the strong run of the tide down the North sea and the tide up the strait of Dover, the two meeting off the Kentish coast and sweeping vast quantities of sand in a whirlpool shoal. In those days of lumbering sailing craft, when vessels were completely at the mercy of the weather, there was little hope of keeping clear of the Goodwins unless the sands could be discerned and wind and tide were favorable. Every gale that blew gave tribute of life and vessel to the shoals.

There have been memorable disasters in recent years, even since steam became almost universal for marine propulsion, but the most noted calamities relate to the days of sail. Of all that have been put on record none is more terrible than the annihilation of an entire fleet of warships in the storm which devastated England in 1703. Thirteen warships anchored in the downs were swept from their moorings. Some were driven ashore. Five, including four sail of the line, were hurled toward the Goodwins and dashed to pieces. Nearly 1,100 officers and men perished, yet a handful were saved and ramsgate and the little haven of the coast.

"Tis the hard gray weather breeds hard Englishmen." The hardest and grayest British weather is that of the North sea. The Goodwins are at the southernmost part of the North sea, and there on the coast line overlooking the sands men battle ceaselessly with one of the sailors' most pitiless enemies. The Goodwins cannot be coaxed or engineered into submission.

They flout mastery and scorn domination and in their essentials remain what they have been for centuries. Man has tried repeatedly to bridle them, to find a foothold on their slinking bases. More than 300 years ago a scheme was formed to build a beacon or a lighthouse on the Goodwins, but it came to nothing. Long afterward attempts were made to raise a lighthouse, but the work was never finished. In 1841 an old ship was scuttled and was made a dead weight with ballast. A mast was put in her and bore a beacon, but only for a time. The greedy Goodwins swallowed all.

The only way to conquer the shoals is to grid them with buoys and lightships, and that has been so well accomplished that in fine weather the sands are marked as clearly on the waters as the hours are indicated on the dial of a watch. But fogs make beacons useless, and so rapid is the run of the sea in the swashes or channels of the sands that even in clear weather an experienced pilot may not get his vessel safely through the indicated tracks.—Walter Wood in Harper's Magazine.

**Getting History Straight.**

It has been shown that Washington was not the real author of his farewell address, nor Monroe of his doctrine, nor Sherman of his law. Presently we shall find out that Bright never had his disease, nor Mason and Dixon a line on anything. And perhaps St. Vitus never danced.—New York Mail.

In order to love mankind we must not expect too much of them.—Helve-tius.

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**PLANT TREES IN  
SMALL TOWNS**

Too Many of Them Are Being  
Sadly Neglected.

**GET BUSY AND CLEAN UP.**

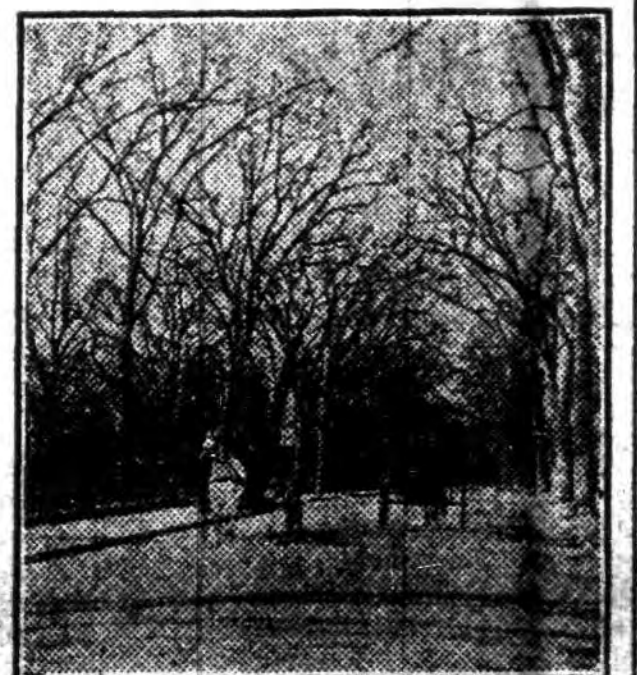
J. H. Miller, Kansas Expert, Tells What  
Every Incorporated Town Should Do  
to Make Itself Attractive—Plant  
Trees Everywhere.

People are in the habit of expecting  
to see beautiful streets and yards and  
parks and parkings in large cities, but  
usually they forget the importance of  
"fixing up" the small town.

"I am going to collect a thousand  
photographs of unsightly things in our  
small towns and show them all over  
the state," said J. H. Miller, director  
of college extension at the Kansas Ag-  
ricultural college, recently. "Why is it  
that in many counties the worst roads  
are the small town streets? Why is it  
that in some small towns there are  
many streets without a tree in the  
parking? Why is it that in scores of  
small towns there are streets not grad-  
ed, no parkings and no parks?"

Every incorporated town, Mr. Miller  
believes, should provide from one to  
six small parks of about a quarter  
block and at least one park covering  
an entire block and then, while land is  
cheap, provide at least one five acre  
park. The time is coming when every  
village will provide parks as naturally  
as it provides streets and alleys, and it  
will be found much cheaper than jails  
and juvenile courts.

Every incorporated town should  
have in its council a committee on  
beautifying the town. The mayor  
should also appoint a co-operating com-  
mittee of three or five not in the coun-  
cil. These committees should plan

**PLANT GOOD SHADE TREES EVERYWHERE.**

for trees, shrubs, cleanups, neighbor-  
hood contests, etc. The main commit-  
tee should be required to walk in a  
body at least once a month all through  
the town and out on every road and  
then walk back into town, trying to  
imagine what the impression of the  
town would be if the committeemen  
were seeing it for the first time.

If the railroad runs near or through  
the town this committee should take  
in "the sights" viewed daily by hun-  
dreds of strangers. They should have  
photographs taken of every badly kept  
place—front yard, back yard or alley—  
and exhibit the same in the postoffice  
until the place is improved. I know  
of one little town that plans to sub-  
scribe \$1,000 this year to advertise its  
advantages.

Every owner of a vacant lot should  
be urged to plant trees in the parking.  
Plant only one variety of tree on one  
street. Plant trees on the school  
grounds, in church lots and in the  
cemetery. Plant trees! Plant trees!  
Clean up!

**FREE FLOWER SEED.**

Nashville School Children Asked to  
Make Zinnia Plots.

As a step in carrying forward the  
work the City Beautiful association of  
Nashville, Tenn., purchased from a lo-  
cal wholesale seed firm quite a supply  
of zinnia seed, the flower adopted by  
the association, and is having this seed  
put into small packages preparatory to  
giving one package to every pupil in  
the public schools.

The package will be accompanied by  
a card to be signed by the pupil ac-  
knowledging its receipt and binding  
him to plant the seed and properly care  
for the plants.

Members of the association believe  
that if they can succeed in enlisting  
the interest of such a large body of  
children that a very decided step will  
have been taken to advance the pur-  
pose of the movement, which is to  
give the city a more beautiful aspect  
and so help to make the home more at-  
tractive.

**Studies Rat Migration.**

Health department officials of Seat-  
tle, Wash., have released twenty-five  
dried rodents for purposes of identifi-  
cation. Each rat has a price of \$2 on  
its head, whether dead or alive. The  
purpose is to trace the drift of the ro-  
dents population as it goes from one  
section of the city to another. "At  
this time of the year rats leave the wa-  
ter front, where they stay during the  
winter months, and make their way to  
hill and residence portions of the city,"  
said Health Commissioner Orlin. This  
is one of the precautionary meas-  
ures taken in connection with plague  
prevention work carried on by the dif-  
ferent cities on the Pacific coast.

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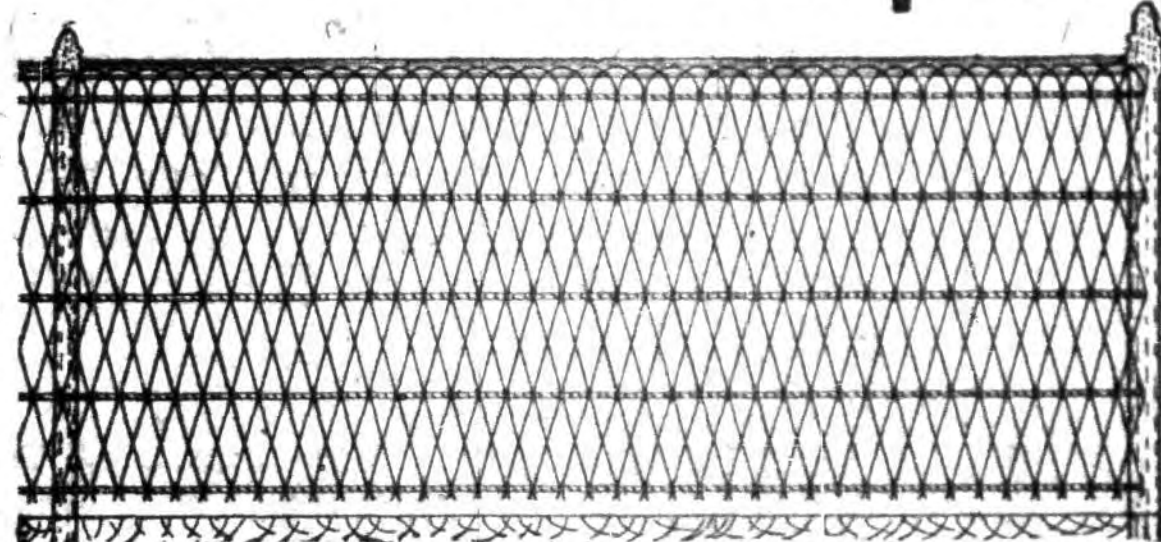
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